

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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COPY

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January 27, 2009

Chairman Doug Bosco  
California State Coastal Conservancy  
1330 Broadway, 13th Floor  
Oakland, CA 94612-2530

RE: Funding for San Diego County Lagoon Restoration Efforts

Dear Mr. Bosco:

As the Interstate 5/State Route 76 Corridor Director, I am writing to express support for the ongoing efforts to restore the San Elijo Lagoon and Buena Vista Lagoons. As you know the region has identified the need to add capacity to both the rail and freeway infrastructure in this area. These important transportation improvements are included in the region's TransNet Program, a one-half cent sales tax to fund a variety of transportation projects throughout San Diego County. These transportation projects offer an exciting opportunity to work in partnership with key stakeholders, such as the Conservancy, to make the lagoon restoration projects a reality. In doing so the region can not only mitigate possible project impacts related to transportation improvements, but we can also enhance and preserve the overall health of the lagoons. However, for this opportunity to be realized, the closely related timing of both the lagoon studies and the transportation projects must be maintained.

It is our understanding that the December 4, 2008 action by the Coastal Conservancy, which allocated \$1,280,000 (\$600,000 for Buena Vista Lagoon and \$680,000 for San Elijo Lagoon) for preliminary design and environmental studies, only partially funded this phase estimated to have a total cost of \$2,800,000. Given the importance of completing these studies in a timely manner, we are proposing that the I-5 North Coast Corridor Project fund the remaining \$1,500,000 shortfall. This \$1,500,000 contribution will be Transnet funds currently budgeted as a part of the \$34M budgeted for preliminary engineering and environmental studies on the I-5 project.

Chairman Doug Bosco

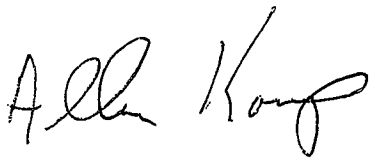
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To authorize the use of these funds, Memorandum of Agreements (MOA) will need to be executed with the lead governmental agency of each restoration project. These MOAs will establish agency roles and responsibilities, scopes of work, reporting requirements, budgets, and schedules. We will be contacting the necessary parties in the near future to initiate the development of these agreements.

I look forward to successful partnership between Caltrans and the Conservancy to enhance the coastal environment and improve mobility in the I-5 corridor. If you have any questions please contact me at 619-688-3611.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Allan Kosup". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Allan" and last name "Kosup" clearly distinguishable.

Allan Kosup  
I-5 & SR 76 Corridor Director  
619.688.3611

cc: Arturo Jacobo  
Bruce April  
Susanne Glasgow  
Keith Greer  
Richard Chavez